

Madam Speaker,

The *Washington Post* headline said it best &quot;Rotten Homecoming ----This is no way to treat a veteran.&quot;

A four month *Washington Post* investigation found frustrating delays some of our returning soldiers are facing in receiving the compensation they are owed for their service to this nation. One soldier was sent to Walter Reed after being smashed in the head by a steel cargo door of an 18-wheeler near the Iraqi border. Now, the Pentagon is saying that the soldier's mental impairment comes from his being slow in high school, not from the dramatic head injury he suffered in combat.

Madame Speaker, this Congress has already begun investigating the outrageous problems our soldiers are facing at Walter Reed. President Bush cannot send them off to battle without properly caring for them when they return home.

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